

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 were pending. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-3 in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested. The amendment to claim 1 corrects minor informalities and does not add any new matter.

Claim 1 was objected to because of the grammatical informality in the recitation "a controller *for* control the multiplexer." As suggested by the Examiner, Applicant has amended this claim to recite "a controller to control the multiplexer."

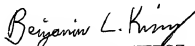
Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2, as being indefinite with respect to whether claim 1 was in Jepson format. As suggested by the Examiner, Applicant has amended claim 1 to explicitly place it in Jepson format. Applicant submits that amended claim 1, as well as its dependent claims 2 and 3, are definite and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the indefiniteness rejection.

Claims 1-3 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-3 of copending Application No. 09/866,874. Applicant traverses this rejection via the attached terminal disclaimer pursuant to 37 CFR 1.321(c).

Applicant submits that pending claims 1-3 are now in condition for allowance, a notice of which is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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